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The radio communiqués of the International Institute of Agriculture are transmitted between 2.10 and 2.20 p. m. on the following days: Monday, Italian; ***Tuesday,*** French; ***Wednesday,*** English; ***Thursday,*** German; ***Friday,*** Spanish.

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ACTIVITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE

The Meeting of the Permanent Committee of the Institute. — The Permanent Committee of the International Institute of Agriculture met on December 16, ult. Baron Giacomo Acerbo presided. The meeting was attended by the Delegates of 22 countries. The President communicated to the Committee that Croatia and Slovakia have officially adhered to the Institute.

The Agenda of this last session of the year 1941 was particularly important. A thorough consideration was given by the Committee to the questions dealing with the activities of the Institute in this exceptionally difficult time.

The Members of the Committee were pleased to find that the different Bureaus were carrying on their work with perfect regularity and that all periodical publications have appeared at their appointed time.

As regards the Institute programme of work in 1942, the Committee recommended that special attention be given to essential economic questions that may put the Institute in a position to take up, with full and perfect knowledge of facts, the various problems of the post war period.

The Committee approved also a plan of work which includes, among other matters, a *"Statistical Compendium"* of data on production and trade of the chief agricultural products, and various *Studies* among which are the following: Statistics of livestock and animal products (1918-1938); population and agriculture; prices and price policies in agriculture; technical and economic aspects of human alimentation; economic problems of agriculture in general, etc.

The Permanent Committee was informed that the Cinémathèque of the Institute has received several new and important agricultural films as gifts from Germany, Italy, Latvia, Mexico, Portugal and Venezuela.

Royal Audience. — His Majesty the King received Baron Giacomo Acerbo and Dr. Guido Comolli, Delegate of Argentina, respectively President and Vice-President of the Institute of which His Majesty was the Founder and is the High Patron. His Majesty was pleased to accept the homage of copies of the latest volumes on world agricultural economy published by the Institute, and expressed to Baron Acerbo and Dr. Comolli His best wishes for the Institute welfare.

The Publications of the International Forestry Center. — The International Forestry Center has continued the regular publication of « Intersylva », a quarterly magazine issued in the German and French editions. A partial edition in Spanish is also published. This periodical contains original articles, summaries of forestry activities and literature, information dealing with forestry interests. Each number contains numerous illustrations. Numbers published in the course of a year constitute a volume of 400-500 pages. The Center has just published two *Studies* which are an extremely interesting addition to its collection of monographs, called « Silvae Orbis ». The first of these studies, entitled " International Repertory of Forestry Periodicals ", contains a survey of international publications on forestry economy and lumber, on hunting and on the protection of nature. The survey lists 1254 titles relative to 76 countries. An introductory note and the foreword are in five languages, which make the contents of the publication accessible to every country. The second monograph deals with " Legislation of reforestation of uncultivated lands ". The volume treats systematically questions on legislative measures relative to reforestation of uncultivated lands in the different countries. An annex contains the summary of the texts of laws in 51 countries. The Center has also published a " Brochure de Fondation ", which contains a complete report on its foundation, and a " Document on the juridical situation of the International Forestry Center ". This last pamphlet contains the texts of international conventions, of the decisions of the Center and of the legislation of the German Reich which are the basis of the structure and activities of the Center itself. In the series of monographs " Silvae Orbis " the following are in the press: N° 3 « Der Weltholzmarkt 1925-1938 "; N° 4 " La diffusion des essences forestières de la zone septentrionale tempérée " (in five languages: French, German, English, Spanish, Italian); N° 5 " Road plantations and their importance from the forestry point of view ".

For publications of the C. I. S. apply directly to: *International Forestry Center, Berlin-Vannsee, Robertstrasse 7.*

INTERNATIONAL BULLETIN OF PLANT PROTECTION

1942 No. 1

DISCOVERIES AND CURRENT EVENTS *

BELGIUM.

A Review of the Colorado Beetle Situation in 1941 †

1414 communes were infested by the Colorado beetle (*Leptinotarsa decemlineata*) in 1941 as follows:—

Province of Antwerp	88	out of 158
.. .. Brabant	222	 348
.. .. West Flanders	158	 253
.. .. East Flanders	282	 297
.. .. Hainaut	198	 443
.. .. Liége	56	 373
.. .. Limburg	76	 206
.. .. Luxemburg	127	 233
.. .. Namur	207	 266

Number of communes infested annually by the Colorado beetle since its introduction into the country:—

Years	Number of communes infested	Number of foci
1935	22	30
1936	45	116
1937	17	39
1938	1,226	—
1939	1,516	—
1940	826	—
1941	1,414	—

* Under this and the next heading the countries are arranged in French alphabetical order.

† Communication from Professor R. MAYNÉ, Director of the State Station of Entomology, Gembloux, Belgium.

SPAIN.

A New Method of Controlling Ink Disease of the European Chestnut *

The European chestnut which in Spain is a source of wealth, is seriously menaced by ink disease caused by the fungus *Phytophthora cambivora* Petri. Chestnut groves are being decimated by this disease.

Damage was first noted in the last century, but the most serious losses occurred in the present century.

It appears that the parasite is propagated from two different foci. One originating in France and penetrating into Spain from Guipuzcoa and Navarra, the other probably starting in Portugal invading first Cáceres, Orense and Pontevedra; subsequently infection spread to La Coruña, Lugo, León and the Asturias, while from the first focus, infection spread from the Cantabrian Mountains to the East and West.

At present, there are about 5 million chestnut trees in production in Spain. One of the provinces which has suffered the least is Lugo where the number of trees has dropped to half within the last 25 years. In La Coruña, the trees are less than a sixth part of the number flourishing at the beginning of the present century, and at Pontevedra, this source of income is practically exhausted. For example, there are communes which formerly owned over 100,000 chestnut trees and which to-day do not even count 100.

If this serious disease is not rapidly controlled, it will practically destroy this source of wealth within a short time and will probably reduce it by at least a quarter within 15 years at the most, if it continues at the same rate.

During 1934, D. Pedro Urquijo Landaluze, Agricultural Engineer, Director of the Phytopathological Station, La Coruña, began experiments for the control of this disease with a new method consisting in treating the underground part of the trunk and the base of the roots with an insoluble copper salt (generally copper carbonate) previously mixed with an adhesive liquid. The experiments carried out on a variable number of chestnut trees (up to 75 per test) were: 2 in 1934, 7 in 1935, 2 in 1936, 1 in 1937, 3 in 1938 and 6 in 1939. The tests were effected in the Provinces of Oviedo, La Coruña, Lugo, Orense and Pontevedra.

The results obtained could not have been better. In fact, only a few trees, those not severely attacked, withered, while still living are other trees which appeared about to die off during the year when treated, as more than half of the circumference of the trees was attacked by the fungus. Nearby untreated trees died off. This proves that the treatment is effective, not only as a preventive measure as was first thought but also as a means of controlling the disease.

* Communication from the official correspondent of the Institute, Mr. José del Cañizo Agricultural Engineer, Central Station of Phytopathology, Madrid, Spain.

The cost of the treatment, calculated according to prices in 1938, for one experiment on 156 trees in the Asturias was 1.20 pesetas per tree, for the copper carbonate and 1.40 pesetas for the manual labour, with a non-specialized staff.

In 1941, according to the provisions of the Department of Agriculture, the Urquijo method has been extended to a large number of chestnut groves comprising thousands of trees.

LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES

Argentine Republic. — Resolution No. 20.043 of April 24, 1941 designates a Committee commissioned to study the possibility of reducing to a single operation the double inspection (sanitary and chemical) to which at present certain agricultural products imported from Chile are subjected. (*Boletín Oficial de la República Argentina*, Buenos Aires, 28 de julio de 1941, año XLIX, núm. 14.080, pág. 2).

*** Resolution No. 20.391 dated May 13, 1941 convokes a meeting of functionaries with a view to proposing the modifications considered opportune to the regulations in force regarding the export of fresh fruit. (*Ibid.*).

Brazil. — Decree-Law No. 3.265 of May 12, 1941 institutes a phytosanitary tax which will be applicable to all plants, parts of plants and also to nurseries and commercial agricultural establishments subject to inspection or any other measure of a phytosanitary character.

Exemption from this phtosanitary tax is allowed for:

(*a*) plants or parts of plants in transit through national territory;

(*b*) inspections or treatments effected on plants or parts of plants pertaining to the Union, to the States or to the communes or which are destined to same, as well as the inspection of agricultural establishments maintained by the public authorities;

(*c*) small quantities of plants transported by travellers in their luggage;

(*d*) plants or parts of plants living or dried, cultivated, produced or worked in the countries with which Brazil has conventions or agreements and after it results that an identical treatment is applied to Brazilian products.

The phytosanitary tax will be collected according to the tariff annexed to this Decree-Law. (*Diario Oficial*, Secção I, Rio de Janeiro, 14 de maio de 1941, ano LXXX, n. 109, pag. 9416-9417).

Spain. — A Ministerial ' Orden ' dated October 25, 1941, establishes the regulations to be followed in locust control. (*Agricultura*, Madrid, noviembre 1941, año X, núm. 115, pág. 439).

United States of America. — In regulation 8 of the Mediterranean fruit fly [*Ceratitis capitata*] and melon fly [*Bactrocera cucurbitae*] quarantine, relating to the inspection of vessels, boarding and inspection of vessels arriving from Hawaii has heretofore been restricted to daylight hours, primarily because of limitations in inspection personnel.

In order to expedite movement under existing emergency shipping conditions an Order of the Secretary of Agriculture, dated May 10, 1941, permits boarding and inspection of vessels arriving from Hawaii during the night period, on condition that notice of the arrival of the vessel is given to the inspector far enough in advance to enable him to make the necessary arrangements for the inspection. (*Federal Register*, Washington, May 13, 1941, Vol. 6, No. 93, pp. 2374-2375).

Italy. — By Ministerial Decree dated September 3, 1941 the territory of the commune of Montedinove, Province of Ascoli Piceno, has been declared infested with grape phylloxera. (*Gazzetta Ufficiale del Regno d'Italia*, Roma, 10 settembre 1941, anno 82º, n. 214, p. 3584).

*** Ministerial Circular No. 160 of October 19, 1941 calls the attention of the competent authorities to the opportuneness of making provision for the control of sparrows and starlings with a view to protecting wheat and rice sowings. (*Bollettino Officiale del Ministero dell'Agricultura e delle Foreste*, Roma 11 novembre 1941, anno XII, n. 32, pp. 2082-2083).

Peru. — A Resolution of July 19, 1941 establishes that while the Technical Services of the ' Dirección de Agricultura y Ganadería ' of the Ministry of ' Fomento y Obras Públicas ' are examining the possibility of disinfecting with definite effect, flax seed produced in fields attacked by ' pasmo ' (*Phylyctaena linicola* [= *Septoria linicola* = *Sphaerella linorum*]). or of promoting the cultivation of the flax plant in the Cajamarca Department, the transport and sale of flax seed produced in the said Department, whatever the locality, as well as its utilization for sowing are prohibited.

The producers or possessors of seed originating in this Department are required to communicate immediately to the ' Dirección de Agricultura y Ganadería ', the stock of seed in hand, place where held, the quantities sold or place where they may have deposited quantites which they hope to collect, as well as place of production.

Any farmer who may have already sown seed produced in the Department of Cajamarca must report to that effect to the said Division.

Persons or enterprises who may know of the existence of linseed produced in the said Department and belonging to a third party, or sowings effected with such seed must, in their interest, inform the same Division.

Infringements of these provisions will be punished by confiscation of the seed, destruction of the sowings and penalties up to 1000 ' soles '. (*La Vida Agrícola*, Lima-Perú, agosto 1º de 1941, vol. XVIII, no. 213, pág. [651]).

*** In order to prevent the introduction into the country of the coffee-berry borer (*Stephanodores hampei*), a Resolution of July 19, 1941 prohibits the import into and transit through the territory of the Republic of all coffee plants or parts of plants as also of coffee beans, whatever the purpose for which they are intended. (*Ibid.*, pág. 656).

*** A Resolution dated July 19, 1941, declares the Majes Valley in the Arequipa Department to be infested with grape phylloxera (*Phylloxera vastatrix*).

In consequence, in the said valley the following are prohibited:—

(*a*) Extraction of vine-shoots and vine plants intended for no matter what other zone in the Republic;

(*b*) Transport of vine-shoots and rooted plants from infested zones to unattacked zones in the same valley, as well as any other rooted plant grown in the infested zone.

Exception is made for young vines which, with the approval of the 'Dirección de Agricultura y Ganadería' are sent to the Majes Valley and intended for re-establishing the vineyards.

The transport of grapes to non-infested valleys will only be allowed if the growers will have, on their own account, attended to the fumigation of the grapes in question, under the supervision of the Agricultural Station of the Department. (*Ibid.*, págs. 656 y 657).

*** By virtue of a Resolution of July 19, 1941, the introduction into the country of the natural enemies of insects, worms and other lower animals harmful to agriculture, may only be effected by the technical organizations of the 'Dirección de Agricultura y Ganadería', by means of preliminary authorization granted by the 'Junta de Sanidad Vegetal' in each case. (*Ibid.*, pág. 657).

*** By Resolution of July 19, 1941, the quarantine measures relative to the importation of cotton from Ecuador [see this *Bulletin*, 1941, Nos. 7-8, p. 144] are extended to castor-oil seeds, husks and presscake, originating in the said Republic, as this material may serve as food and a vehicle for the pink cotton bollworm (*Pectinophora gossypiella*), the presence of which has been ascertained in Ecuador. (*Ibid.*, pág. 659).

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[This authoritative work for the compilation of which Dr de Seabra, naturalist at the Zoological Museum of the University of Coimbra, began his painstaking and laborious researches in 1929, is a detailed compendium of the knowledge acquired up to the present on insects and other animals noxious to wheat in the different countries of the world.
Besides its evident practical utility as a consultation work, this volume of the Portuguese scientist contains data as yet unpublished and in its development breaks away from the general plan usually followed in books on economic entomology.
The volume is divided into four parts not counting the introduction and one appendix.
The first part deals with the ecological and biological study of the species of insects harmful to wheat.
In the second part the entomological problems regarding this cereal in the different continents are examined. A special chapter is given on Portugal.
The third part treats on control measures, particular consideration being given to the natural enemies (parasites and predators) of wheat pests (the plant and the grain).
The fourth part assembles lists frequently containing original indications on the chief insects and other animals harmful to wheat in forty-there countries of the world.
The appendix reviews the Myriapoda, Arachnida, Vermes, Mollusca and Vertebrata injurious to wheat.
The volume is completed by (*a*) an alphabetical index of the genera and species; (*b*) an alphabetical index of the plants or crops, other than wheat, cited; (*c*) a very extensive bibliographical index].

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